BULLETIN from

Virginia Kirkus' Service 317 West 4th Street

Vol. XXVIII March 15, 1960 No. 6

MID-LENTEN RELIGIOUS BOOK SUPPLEMENT: No. 3

Catholic Books Reported by
Professor Bernard Gilligan

Sr. Mary Myron, O.S.B.- *Ed.* Bruce
A TRAPPIST WRITES HOME $4.00

This volume contains the letters of Abbot Gerard McGinley, O.C.S.O., to his family, covering the period in his life from the time he entered the Trappist monastery at Gethsemane, Ky. to just before he died in 1955 as abbot of the Trappists at the monastery of Our Lady of the Genesee, N.Y. The letters were not originally intended for publication. They will be of interest primarily to Trappists and their friends and particularly to those who knew Abbot McGinley personally. While in their own way they attest to the holiness and humanity of the Abbot, they do not have the quality to convey on their own specific idea of the religious personality of the writer or to move the reader in any profound way. Those who knew the Abbot will relate his personality to these letters will probably not agree with this judgment, as the Introduction by Father Raymond, O.C.S.O. would seem to indicate. *Imprimatur.* (May)

Daniel-Rops, Henri Hawthorn
THE BOOK OF MARY $4.95

It would be difficult to find an author more qualified to accomplish the aim of this book than distinguished French Academician. With reverence and scholarship, with imagination and a limpid style, the author undertakes a quest for the historical Mary. The cult of the Blessed Virgin in both Eastern and Western Christianity and Marian influences in the history of art have been so great that the significance of a solid work of this nature for the general reading public cannot be overestimated. The author discusses the sources of Marian conceptions in the Gospels, the Apocrypha, tradition and dogma and recreates a true historical picture of Mary herself and of Christian Marian devotion. The actual documents are then quoted, texts from Scripture, from the Fathers and from the Apocrypha. The last-named are little known today. Yet they have been the main source of inspiration for artists who have employed Marian themes in their works. A Catholic Book Club selection. *Imprimatur.* (3/4. LC: 60-5895)

Guarducci, Margherita Hawthorn
THE TOMB OF ST. PETER $4.95

* Subtitled, "The New Discoveries in the Sacred Grottoes of the Vatican", this volume is a good English translation by Joseph McLellan of the author's shortened and popularized version of her *I graffiti sotto la Confessione di san Pietro in Vaticano* (3 vols., Rome, 1958). The reduction of such a massive, scholarly work to popular proportions has in the present instance been accomplished very successfully. The text is clear and interesting for the general reader, without any oversimplification. Sixty-three photographs and drawings accompany and illustrate the text, which deals with the excavations and especially the inscriptions in the Vatican grottoes indicating the presence of the tomb of St. Peter on the spot where tradition has held it to be. As a result of her own interpretations of the graffiti in accordance with her theory of "mystical cryptography", the distinguished author concludes

finally that science confirms faith in the matter of St. Peter's presence, martyrdom and burial in Rome, as also the correctness of the tradition placing his tomb under the Confessional Altar of St. Peter's. The author is an archaeologist and epigraphist who was prominent among those working on the excavations at St. Peter's under Pope Pius XII. *Imprimatur.* (~~4/15~~ 6/3. LC: 60-5898)

Sheen, Fulton J., Bishop & Morton, H.V. — Hawthorn
Karsh, Yousuf — THIS IS ROME — $4.95

A souvenir volume on the city of Rome with an introduction by Bishop Sheen, text by H.V. Morton and photographs by Yousuf Karsh. The combination is unbeatable to insure a wide sale. The material is divided into four sections, *The Rome of the Caesars* (Appian Way, Roman Forum), *The Rome of the Apostles* (titular churches), *The Rome of the Pilgrims* (the seven great churches and the catacombs) and *The Rome of Today* (the Gregorian, the Swiss Guard, the Vatican Gardens, a papal audience in St. Peter's). The volume is handsome, the photographs excellent and the text interesting, brief and simple. A Catholic Book Club selection. *Imprimatur.* (~~3/18~~ 4/8. LC: 60-6217)

Butler, B.C. — Helicon
WHY CHRIST? — $3.50

The Abbot of Downside addresses himself in this book of apologetics to reasonable men seeking a criterion for living in a context of diverse and contradictory conclusions held by those who have sought such a criterion by the unaided light of reason. He attempts to show that "Christianity meets man at the point of his deepest need". With intelligence, learning, brevity and human sensitibility, he discusses "The Modern Situation", "Self and Not-Self", "Religion and History", "Revelation", "Christian Origins", "Christ and the Church", "Living by Faith". It is difficult to see how any intelligent person reading this book would not agree with the author that the Church's claim for her own teaching "deserves that laborious attention which may in a given case be necessary before curiosity can be converted into concern, and concern become a predisposition to assent". This book can be used as an excellent guide by priests and Catholic laymen for approaching those who need first to be shown that it is reasonable at all to take the Church's claims seriously before they can be expected to listen to the specific arguments adduced in an entire course of apologetics. *Imprimatur.* (3/30. LC: 60-8692)

Dannemiller, Lawrence, S.S. — Helicon
READING THE WORD OF GOD — $4.50

D.R. This is a guide book for group reading of Holy Scripture adaptable to individual reading as well. It is the author's hope that it will be useful as a guide to mental prayer based on the text of the Bible. The references are not to whole books but to passages from both the Old and New Testaments related to a specific topic. The topical arrangement follows the course of the "Salvation History" which the entire Bible represents. Comments are kept to the minimum and are very simple. The readings are indicated by units, 150 in the main body of the text, 75 more in an Appendix. Each unit consists of an introduction, psalm reference, references to three or four readings in connection with a specific topic, a concluding prayer. The book should prove useful at any level for Bible-study clubs, in the classroom, for group and private meditations. *Imprimatur.* (March. LC: 60-9792)

Reinhold, H. A. Helicon
BRINGING THE MASS TO THE PEOPLE $3.50

* The author of this scholarly work on the liturgy has been associated as an expert with the liturgical movement for about forty years. His approach to the subject is neither that of the aesthete nor the archaist, but that of the pastor of souls, who realizes the tremendous importance of the liturgy in the Catholic economy of salvation. He gives us here a report, analyzed and explained in an original way, of the proposals of experts, pastors and bishops anent liturgical reform. The focal point of interest is the restoration of the Roman rite. First-hand information is offered the reader about the discussion in ecclesiastical circles concerning the impending reform of the Mass. An introductory essay by Frederick R. McManus, J.C.D. concerns itself with the subject of liturgical reform in general in the light of papal pronouncements and other official documents of the Church. The author provides an illustration, after his lengthy, scholarly discussion, of a Mass composed in accordance with proposed reforms. All liturgists and all pastors should be interested in this book. Anyone who wants the latest information on the state of liturgical discussion in the Church and who would welcome some sound principles to guide his own thinking about the liturgy in relation to the people must read this book. *Imprimatur.* (5/15)

Von Hildebrand, Dietrich Helicon
LITURGY AND PERSONALITY $4.00

** This book has been out of print for some time. The publisher does the reader a great service in bringing out this reprint. The author is a well known Catholic philosopher whose intellectual acumen is matched by his depth of human sensibility. The book under consideration approaches the subject of the liturgy from a novel point of view. It develops the thesis that true personality, in the classical sense of the term, has marks such as the spirit of communion, of reverence, of objective, genuine response to value, spiritual depth, discretion, continuity, organic unfolding and a sense of proportion, that are expressed in and activated by the liturgy, provided the liturgy is not approached as a means to bring about a psychological effect. The book will enhance one's appreciation of the character and value of the liturgy and at the same time provide one with some profound insights into the true nature of the ideal human personality. *Imprimatur.* (4/1)

McGerr, Patricia Kenedy
MARTHA, MARTHA $3.95

This is an exceptionally interesting Biblical novel though some of the assumptions are controversial. The author displays unusual imaginative skill, psychological perceptiveness and accurate knowledge of the region and customs into which her characters fit. Building on the scanty details given in the New Testament about Martha, Mary and Lazarus of Bethany, the author creates in the case of Martha a character whose self-righteousness and legalistic zeal bring frustration to herself and degradation to her sister, whom the author identifies with Mary Magdalen. Mary is healed and Martha converted to love when they come to know and minister to Jesus of Nazareth. There is something a bit ingenuous about the way in which the author develops the character of Martha on the basis of knowing simply that "she was anxious about many things" and tries to account for Mary's harlotry in modern psychological terms based on interpersonal relations. (3/31. LC: 60-7787)

Burton, Katherine — Longmans, Green

THE DREAM LIVES FOREVER — $4.50

St. Patrick's Cathedral is one of New York City's best known landmarks. It is not without its artistic merits. It has housed some very important and colorful ceremonies in the past hundred years and remains today a busy center of spiritual activity. Its interesting and symbolic history is here sketched in journalistic fashion by a well known Catholic biographer. She recounts the story of the cathedral from the time it was first envisioned by Archbishop Hughes on through the successive stages of its building and decoration under Cardinal McCloskey, Archbishop Corrigan, Cardinal Farley, Cardinal Hayes and Cardinal Spellman. Attention is given to the personalities and achievements of these churchmen associated with its physical being and spiritual significance. The subject matter and popular style of this volume should ensure its wide appeal to a general reading public as well as the Catholic market. *Imprimatur.* (~~4/13~~. 5/18 LC: 60-10210)

Henry, Paul, S.J. — Macmillan

ST. AUGUSTINE ON PERSONALITY — $2.25

This is the inaugural lecture of the Saint Augustine Lecture Series on Saint Augustine and the Augustinian Tradition sponsored by Villanova University. The lecturer is a distinguished Plotinian and Augustinian scholar. His thesis is that the true concept of the person and personality originates in western thought with St. Augustine as he contemplates the doctrine of the Trinity. Relatedness to other persons is one of the essential characteristics of St. Augustine's view of the person. The lecture under consideration is very scholarly but at the same time the author constantly relates his topic to current personalist, ecumenical and international preoccupations. The market for this book will probably be restricted to university libraries and to professors and students of theology and philosophy. *Imprimatur.* (~~5/9~~. 4/21 LC: 60-8123)

Burghardt, Walter J., S.J. &
Lynch, William F., S.J.- *Eds.* — Meridian ~~$7.50~~ 6.00/6

THE IDEA OF CATHOLICISM

* *An Introduction to the Thought and Worship of the Church,* this volume is unusual in several respects. In the first section, it aims to present an authentic picture in depth of Catholicism in its different parts and as a whole through a series of essays selected from the writings of some of the best European and American theologians who, in the opinion of the editors, have said best in each case what respectively had to be said on the separate topics covered. Accordingly, men like Cardinal Suhard, Dom Charlier, Karl Adam, Gaston Salet, S.J., Yves Congar, O.P., A.M. Roguet, O.P., M.C. D'Arcy, S.J., P. Benoit, O.P., Yves de Montcheuil, S.J., Gerald Vann, O.P., Cardinal Newman, Archbishop Goodier and the distinguished editors themselves contribute to the formation of a book on Catholicism that has great depth, clarity, internal consistency and existential import. The second section provides the reader with first-hand sources of information and material to be savored for its beauty and truth in the form of "the documents" of Catholicism, such as the various creeds that have been formulated, the texts of the Mass, of the rites of the Sacraments, and of the liturgical and devotional prayers in use in the Church, excerpts from the great books of Catholic spirituality, and quotations from modern papal pronouncements. The editors are to be congratulated on the successful way in which they set about to achieve their aim "to provide the serious student of Catholicism, be he Catholic or non-Catholic, with those materials which will put him in basic and solid contact with the theology and prayer of the Church." *Imprimatur.* (~~March~~) 4/1

Merton, *Intro. by* Reynal-Viking Press
Burden, Shirley- *Photographs by* $6.00
GOD IS MY LIFE

Mr. Burden was given an unusual opportunity in freedom of access to the Abbey of Our Lady of Gethsemani, the Trappist monastery in Kentucky in order to present the life of the monastery, as he saw it, in photographs of perception and significance. While the emphasis- judging by the samples in the brochure, which is all we have seen - is on the externals, something of the religious mystery comes through in his selection of material. Thomas Merton's poetic introduction sets the key, though for a good many outsiders, it strikes a somber note. Since publication comes so close to Easter, we are reporting this with inadequate material so that you will be prepared for it. (April. LC: 60-9227)

Arendzen, J.B., D.D. Sheed & Ward
PURGATORY AND HEAVEN (paper) $0.75

A volume in the Canterbury Book series, this book contains a lengthy extract from the author's *What Becomes of the Dead?* dealing with the subjects of purgatory and heaven. The material covered includes the particular judgment, purgatory, heaven, the last judgment and the resurrection of the body. The quality of theological thought exhibited in the consideration of these topics is of a superior order, sober yet moving. Most appropriate for Lenten reading and meditation. *Imprimatur.* (3/30. LC: 60-7317)

Lynch, William F., S.J. Sheed & Ward
CHRIST & APOLLO: *Dimensions of the Literary Imagination* $5.00

** This is an exceptionally fine book on the relationship of literature and the literary imagination to human life. The author, whose book on television and the movies, *The Image Industries*, has won wide critical acclaim and gained for its publishers an award for creative Catholic publishing, is a Jesuit priest who excels as a writer, theologian, philosopher, scholar, artist, teacher and literary critic. All of his talents are used to the full in the work under consideration. This volume contains unusual insights into the meaning, for literature and for life, of concrete experience,- time, tragedy, comedy, freedom, the analogy of being, the theological imagination and Christ Himself. Illuminating criticism, illustrated by a wealth of examples, is expressed with regard to the typical defects of certain forms of the modern literary imagination. Incidental to all this, the book actually sketches the outline of a sturdy spirituality connotative of both sanity and sanctity. The author's central theme is that both life and literature must find insight, beauty, even God Himself, not by some sort of pseudo-mystical leap into a vague infinity or by some sort of "magic", but by remaining with the definite, limited, temporal, concrete dimensions of the finite. An original work of the highest caliber, this book will stimulate the literary critic, the literary artist, the professor or student of literature and the generalist. Its appeal extends beyond the strictly Catholic market. *Imprimatur.* (4/20. LC: 60-7315)

Molnar, Thomas Sheed & Ward
BERNANOS: *His Political Thought & Prophecy* $3.95

This book supplies a real need and supplies it very competently. Most lovers in America of the great French Catholic novelist, Bernanos, author of *Diary of a Country Priest*, have only a hazy idea of his political thought and activity. This volume traces his political history and perceptively studies the convictions and character of the man as he reacts--violently always--to political conditions. The author depicts Bernanos as a Rightist, but not of the fascist sort, dominated

by motivations of a strictly religious and patriotic nature. His political essays reflect the mind of a philosopher and prophet rather than a politician. They are always direct, even violent, because "the personality and thinking of Bernanos was...unique... a blend of temperament, sensibility and convictions", full of integrity, impatient of mediocrity and compromise. A stimulating, scholarly study of an extraordinary man of this century. (3/30. LC: 60-7312)

Oliver, E.J. Sheed & Ward
BALZAC THE EUROPEAN $4.25

An interesting, perceptive, urbanely written study of the life and works of the great early nineteenth century French novelist, this volume develops the thesis that "Balzac, in a changing world, created the last and the most comprehensive reflection of European society". In a very engaging manner, the author relates the strengths and weaknesses of Balzac to the characters and ideas of his literary masterpieces and succeeds in arousing in the reader the same sort of affection for the man that he himself has. The blend of Swedenborgian mysticism and Catholicism in Balzac is discussed in an interesting and intelligent way. The book will mean more to those who know and love Balzac's works, but it should stimulate and interest anyone concerned with the question of the relation of society and an author's life to literary masterpieces. (3/16)

Sheed, F.J. Sheed & Ward
GOD AND POLITICS (paper) $0.75

Another in the Canterbury Book series, this volume contains a lengthy extract from the author's well known work, *Society and Sanity*. It sets forth clearly the essential principles of Catholic social and political philosophy and argues that the value of the person in a social and political context can find no intellectual foundation in materialism, but requires a religious basis. A handy book to refer to for a synopsis of basic Catholic teaching on the social and political orders. *Imprimatur*. (3/30)

Religious Books- Non-Catholic

Reported by Dr. Roscoe Thornton Foust

Bachman, John W. Association Press
THE CHURCH IN THE WORLD OF RADIO-TELEVISION $3.50

That the Church faces wonderful opportunities in the broadcasting media is no news, and that many of the attempts to present religion effectively over the air have failed is also no news. Union Theological Seminary's Professor Bachman draws on considerable experience to explore the reasons, both from a theological and practical point of view. More importantly, he suggests what can be done to improve the situation. Thousands of pastors who face the problem of using broadcast time effectively will find this volume invaluable. It would also help a great deal if pastors who have men in their congregations involved in the radio-television industry would recommend or present the book to them as a means toward better understanding all around. The book is concise and readable. Of special interest is Chapter Six - *The Scope on Christian Broadcasts*. Professor Bachman shows real sympathy and understanding of the difficulties facing both Preacher and Broadcaster as each endeavors to fulfill his role. (March. LC: 60-6554)

Bennett, John C. Association Press
CHRISTIANITY AND COMMUNISM TODAY $3.50

Twelve years ago Prof. John C. Bennett of the Union Theological Seminary, wrote most of this book. It has since received wide acceptance and has had a pronounced influence on Christian thinking vis a vis Communism as a faith and as an ideology. But history has done so much to Communism in the past decade that Dr. Bennett has taken a fresh look, - and though he feels that all he said then should be repeated now for the record, he gives an honest evaluation of the significance of recent developments "behind the iron curtain", since Stalin. The more important things to emphasize today, he writes, are the success of the system on its own terms which emphasize science, technology and production, and the relaxation of the worst elements of tyranny. There is also the broadening of the political base of the dictatorship, the passing of the revolutionary generation with its fanatical belief in the Marxist-Leninist ideology, and the emphasis by the Russian people themselves on the improvement of their living standards, and the increase in consumers' goods. He pleads for a much more positive attitude toward Russia as a Communist nation. "She has paid the price and after 40 years of great suffering is coming out on the other side with gains that we should respect." He does not say that these considerations should soften our attitude toward Communism and its spread in the world; yet the present rulers of Russia have brought their country out of the darkness of Stalinism, and deserve something better than our continuing assumption that their gains must be our losses. There is much more to be found in this book of abiding significance. It is even more now a "must" book for thoughtful Christians who often wonder what their stand as Christians should be. Such a book gives courage to the reader where it is most needed, - in taking a firm position against the irrational fears, hates and prejudices of the many who would be our political leaders. (April. LC: 60-6553)

Elder, John Bobbs-Merrill
PROPHETS, IDOLS AND DIGGERS: *Scientific Proof of Bible History* $5.00

Recent archeological discoveries have thrown a great deal of new light on the Bible. That is what this book is about. The author, John Elder, who lives in Iran, has for many years been surrounded by these archeological evidences, and has drawn freely upon the study and writing that has already been done as to their extent and interpretation. Using this material freely, he has told a story that is both coherent and dramatic and successfully brings together all relevant material as to the method, manner and meaning of the "diggings" which so often indicate that Bible references are not as obscure as some have thought, and that The Book is indeed rooted and grounded in history. He begins at the beginning, Genesis, and goes on through Revelation. Those who have visited the Holy Land will get special delight from this book, for it will bring back to them with deeper meaning the scenes they have visited all too briefly. (4/4. LC: 60-7160)

Cohen, Arthur- *Ed.* Harcourt, Brace
ANATOMY OF FAITH $4.75

While New York was shaken by depression, World War II and aftermath, the populace was helped by the insight, interpretation and conviction of several outstanding Rabbis, not the least of whom as Milton Steinberg. His influence extended far beyond the Park Avenue Synagogue he served, and he was heard in many other circles than the Conservative and Reconstructionist groups of Judaism he embodied. Arthur A. Cohen has done the religious world a great service in presenting these essays of Rabbi Steinberg and by giving them to us with a biography written with tenderness. The book will appeal to rabbis and ministers of every sort, whether for reinforcing convictions already held or for scrutinizing beliefs not necessarily in agreement. That Rabbi Steinberg was a devout Jew only gives added force to his widely ranging mind, and this is never so evident as when he discusses Niebuhr, Kierkegaard, Heidegger or Sartre. Well-informed laymen will also appreciate this book, as will teachers of philosophy and men for whom technology is a continuing study. (3/23. LC: 60-5442)

Cousins, Norman Harper
DOCTOR SCHWEITZER IN LAMBARENE $3.95

* In his own lifetime Dr. Albert Schweitzer has become both a legend and a myth, and his image has the power to inspire and bring out the best in people the world over. Norman Cousins, editor of the *Saturday Review*, explains how this has come to pass. Not long ago he visited Dr. Schweitzer at his hospital and home in Lambarene, for the purpose of persuading the doctor to let him photograph a manuscript or two which he had all but finished, but which were mouldering away in the damp tropics, with subsequent danger of being lost to posterity, and also to persuade him to make a statement on the dangers of nuclear explosions to human life and taking a strong position on moral grounds against its continuation. Mr. Cousins was successful on both counts and his story about it makes fascinating reading. It also increases our admiration for the doctor of Lambarene, whose very faults endear him the more to his friends and co-workers, and to the world. This is a notable addition to the growing volume of Schweitzer literature, and is likely to become the best loved of them all. Mr. Cousins writes with clarity, perception and grace. (5/~~11~~. 25 LC: 60-9134)

Kennedy, Gerald Harper
THE PARABLES: *Sermons on the Stories Jesus Told* $3.50

If any Protestant preacher thinks that everything has been said that can be said about the parables of Jesus, let him read this book by the Methodist Bishop, Gerald Kennedy. There is a freshness and newness here in these sermons on the stories Jesus told that delight the heart without violating the mind. Sticky sentimentalism is avoided, as is all that is abstrusely academic, but feeling and wisdom is to be found in abundance, told with honest words that do not try to strain for an effect, and are therefore most effective. "I have tried", writes Bishop Kennedy, "to find the message of the parables for our day." His success in this search should be rewarded by a wide reading by both clerics and laymen. (4/13. LC: 60-7959)

Luccock, Robert E. Harper
THE POWER OF HIS NAME $3.50

Presenting Christ as the mediator, reconciler and redeemer of the world of men, Mr. Robert E. Luccock knows how to take old truths and present them to a modern world in a fresh and striking way that enhances their power. He has ready access to the world of literature and the every-day affairs of men from which he draws abundant illustrations. Some of his chapter titles- "Christ the Redeemer of Life's Lost Meaning", "Christ, the Teacher", "Christ, the Forgiving God", "Christ our Partner in Prayer", "Christ the Master in a Community of Faith", "Christ the Conqueror of Our Anxiety"- will give some indication of the breadth of the author's canvas, but the book must be read to grasp the depth of meaning which comes from his penetrating insight. It would have been a good book for Lenten reading, but any time would be an appropriate time for the inquirer or the Christian who knows that there is more to life than meets his own eye. (4/27. LC: 60-8138)

Schultz, Samuel J. Harper
THE OLD TESTAMENT SPEAKS $7.00

More and more the Old Testament is being taken seriously as the sacred history that discloses God's revelation of himself to man; a record not only of what God has done in the past, but the divine plan for mankind's future as well. For Prof. Samuel Schultz it is as important now to let the Old Testament constitute the ultimate authority as it did for the Jews and Christians in New Testament times. Allowing for errors of transmission, he says the words of the biblical writers teach the truth without error. So he gives us a survey of the entire Old Testament, relating archeology, history and other fields of study to his purpose. But through it all he lets the Bible speak for itself.

This is a most comprehensive and thorough going introduction to the Old Testament, one which serious students and Bible classes will value highly as they search the scriptures for their eternal meaning. (5/11. LC: 60-7952)

Shoemaker, Samuel M. Harper
WITH THE HOLY SPIRIT AND WITH FIRE $2.75

"Sam" Shoemaker, now rector of Calvary Church, Pittsburgh, has many volumes on various aspects of personal religion to his credit. His many friends enjoy and profit from the forthright, vigorous and evangelical enthusiasm with which he describes the Christian way of life, well illustrated by the changed lives of the many he has known in all walks of life. His is a "contagious" personality, and joy is the gift that reaches from him through the printed page to the reader. Here he writes of the place and power of the Holy Spirit in the Church and in the life of man, describing a way of readiness toward God which alone is prelude to the spiritual awakening which only God himself can bring to pass. He wants his words "to be more suggestive than dogmatic, more provocative than final, more directed toward experience than theology". He is often critical of and impatient with the Church, but only because he loves her, and longs again to see her "filled with the Holy Spirit and with Fire". (5/11. LC: 60-8136)

Young, Richard K. & Harper
Meiburg, Albert L. SPIRITUAL THERAPY $4.00

* A must book for all clergy who would share in the approach which the Church and medical science are making toward each other in attempting to combine the best information gleaned from the disciplines of science with the health-giving resources of the Christian religion. In particular, this book is an attempt to appropriate knowledge from medical disciplines, and to illustrate how pastoral care can more effectively be given in the light of this information. The material presented by the Rev. Richard Young and Dr. Meiburg is taken from the clinical records of typical patients who have cooperated with the "team" of doctor, psychiatrist and chaplain in making it available to others who would minister better to the ill in body, mind and spirit. Among the chapters are those addressed to the pastoral care of the heart patient, the ulcer patient, the asthma patient, the skin patient, the surgical patient, and the acutely bereaved. Any pastor will see himself and his own parishioners in these stories, and he will be a better pastor to them because of what he can learn in this book. It is an important contribution to the growing literature of pastoral care which should find its way into every pastor's study. (4/27. LC: 60-7958)

Schofield, Guy Hawthorn
IT BEGAN ON THE CROSS $5.00

If one can clear away the brambles of overwriting and reveal the basic structure and content of this book, it should serve a very vital purpose and contribute to an area of Biblical study and the history of the early Christian church of which too little is generally known. The New Testament ends with Paul captive in Rome, in A.D.62. This is the study of the next hundred years, through the death of the last of the Apostolic Fathers, Polycarp. Tracing concurrently the progress of events in Rome, in Judea, the growth of the cult within Judaism and the gradual break away into what came to be called the Christian movement, one gets a sense of world history (for Rome was virtually the known world to its farthest reaches in Britain and Spain) backgrounding a new ethical and religious movement. The author takes the position that the assertions made by those who lived and wrote within a century when they either knew the principals of the Gospels, or some who had had personal contact with them, are reasonably close to truth. He has depended on the Apocryphal New Testament, on letters and records. And he has created an intensely interesting and dramatic story of the early Christians which throws light on the Acts and the Epistles, on Roman history, and which provides a readable and cogent argument for his interpretation of the beginnings of Christianity. (3/12. LC: 60-5896)

Jones, Dr. G. Curtis — Macmillan

PARENTS DESERVE TO KNOW — $3.95

So many books for parents are written as though only college graduates have children, and even they should be at least amateur psychologists. Not so, with Dr. Jones, who kept before him all kinds of families when he wrote this book. He is a great comfort to those many, many people concerned with problems of growth and development, of the danger of delinquency, and of the opportunity all parents have of helping shape the lives of their children according to God's plan. By breaking down the book into a series of interesting, almost conversational essays, each of which can be read in five minutes, Dr. Jones has shown his appreciation of the fact that many parents have to do their reading in snatches. His gift of illustration enlivens every page. He has enriched his personal experience as a parent of five sons by enlisting two hundred couples whose practical experience guides the book's contents. Although Dr. Jones writes as a Protestant Christian minister, his broad sympathies make it a useful volume to any American parent. Even though the book is aimed at parents, it could also be used wisely with youth groups, or, with the right teacher, with seniors in the Sunday School. This volume is a natural for giving to new parents. (~~4/18~~ 5-16. LC: 60-7417)

Tolles, Frederick B. — Macmillan

QUAKERS AND THE ATLANTIC CULTURE — $3.95

The Quakers have never been large in number nor small in influence, and this may prompt many people to purchase a book which gives some insight into the Friends, especially during their colonial period. For the Quakers had an Atlantic Community three centuries before the rest of us caught up. The story is told from the inside, by one very sympathetic to the beliefs, practices and prodigious labors of his spiritual ancestors. The greatest appeal of the book is to its natural audience - the Society of Friends, but that is a hard number to define, for to those reported statistically as members must be added 'the larger fellowship' and even those who feel related to the Friends by their convictions. The people of The Light have never paid much attention to themselves, and this book provides a welcome addition to the scanty works on their history. Part of the book's appeal lies in the fact that you cannot tell the story without coming to grips with the faith that made the story possible. (4/18)

Harland, Gordon — Oxford

THE THOUGHT OF REINHOLD NIEBUHR — $6.00

Christians who have not in some measure been affected by the thought of Reinhold Niebuhr are rare, but rarer still are those who have been able to keep abreast of his prolific literary output, his magnificent lectures and his tremendous involvement in many practical ways with the world around him, where he has been a great theologian for two score years. For the rest of us Gordon Harland has done a great favor in bringing together in this single, large volume the essence of his teachings, well systematized. Best of all, this has been done at a time when Dr. Niebuhr could react to the result. An important feature of Professor Harland's work is the presentation by contrast, so that Dr. Niebuhr's teachings are shown in sharp relief against those who disagreed with him or to whom he took strong exception. Students of economics, labor, politics and social problems will find lots of meat in this work, for the range of Dr. Niebuhr's interests is as broad as his mind is magnificent. Professional theologians and humble preachers will be stimulated by Gordon Harland's analysis, and the issues discussed are such that those in the field of philosophy cannot ignore. Professor Harland's work is not easy reading, for he is dealing with a man who has stretched the minds of Christians for four decades, The book has the grace of tracing the development of many of the great ideas, for Dr. Niebuhr is a man who has not hesitated to share fresh insights as the implications of the Gospel unfolded to him. Yet the basic unity and consistency of his teaching is never lost sight of. This book will get a wide and grateful readership. (4/21. LC: 60-7061)

James, E.O. Putnam

HISTORY OF RELIGION: to August-$6.95
The Ancient Gods thereafter-$7.50

This is the first volume of a proposed 15-volume series on the History of Religion, and while its distribution will be largely through educational channels, it should be available- through large public libraries- as a reference book for scholars in the field of religion. Archaeological excavations, the deciphering of obscure texts, etc. have in this century thrown light on knowledge and understanding of religions in the ancient Near East, from Pre-history to the end of the Bronze Age- the period with which this volume is concerned. The origins of civilization seem now to have their source in fertile oases like Jericho rather than the Euphrates and the Indus. New finds carry scholars back to the Neolithic Age (8-6,000 BC). Oriental civilizations converged on the Mediterranean by sea and land; the Hittite Empire flourished; the nomadic shepherds invaded Palestine but subsequent vicissitudes scattered them until Cyprus restored the Israelites to Palestine. The fusion of the Aegean and the Ancient Near East provides an integrated whole. And it is the emergency of religion in this area that is explored:- the differing aspects of different cults, the cults of the dead, the mother goddesses, the sacred kingships, the seasonal festivals, the varying rites, the attitudes towards sources of life and the universe, towards deities- the One and the Many, the role of prophecy, the varying disciplines, and as the book closes, the emergence of the Christian concept of Deity. This is a basic book, and a useful one, bringing into focus much new material. (4/18. LC: 60-8472)

Ellison, Gerald Seabury Press

THE ANGLICAN COMMUNION $2.00
Past & Future

The Anglican Bishop of Chester gave the substance of these chapters as the McMath lectures at St. John's Church, Detroit. Without sacrificing exactness of scholarship they are popular in style, and are therefore highly commended to lay readers who want a reliable account of the origin, growth, and future prospects of the Episcopal Church. The tolerance of mind and spirit typical of the Anglican temper is here fully exemplified by Bishop Ellison, and members of that communion will find this book an excellent history of its achievement and hopes. It would be a valuable handbook for confirmation classes. (4/21. LC: 60-5887)

Doresse, Jean Viking

THE SECRET BOOKS OF THE EGYPTIAN GNOSTICS $6.50

* Two discoveries of tremendous importance have given Christians today a better understanding of the early centuries of the Church than has been available for fifteen hundred years. The first was the Dead Sea Scrolls, of which much has been written already. Now, for the first time we have a chance to see and evaluate the forty-four hitherto unknown books discovered in a buried jar at Chenoboskion in Egypt, which have come down to us almost intact from Gnostic sources writing while that heresy was flourishing. The Dead Sea Scrolls have interest because they reflect an influential religious movement that may have had some impact upon the first Christians, but it was not apparently in direct contact with Christianity. Not so *The Secret Books of the Egyptian Gnostics*. These were people who lived a bit later when the Church was strong, and had a well developed theology, worship and way of life. They were parallel to the early Church, derived much of their vocabulary and ideology from that Church and then went way off on their own so that they came into violent conflict with the emerging Church. Sometimes they infiltrated, sometimes there was "cold war", and sometimes open persecution. The importance of this book lies in the fact that up until now, we have had so little direct knowledge of their teachings - just a very few manuscripts, excerpts quoted by the Fathers who were greatly concerned to refute what they quoted, and several polemical volumes from these same Fathers, who could not denounce and undermine the Gnostic teachings without giving the readers some idea of what they were. We have known Gnosticism through the eyes of its enemies. Now we have the teaching at first hand, and who can estimate the value of these documents better than a man who was in on their discovery, preservation, translation and release after years of no money and

monumental governmental stupidity. This was Professor Doresse, though he is careful to credit his colleagues. No Old Testament scholar can do without the book; no seminarian's training will be complete without some recourse to it; and it might be a good idea if ministers in the field brought their knowledge of Gnosticism up to date. The importance of the volume is attested by the fact that this is an American edition of a book already selling widely in England, which is itself a translation of Dr. Doresse's original work in French. (4/28. LC: 60-6161)

Jones, Ilion T. Westminster

A PROTESTANT SPEAKS HIS MIND $3.95

This book has been written for a wide audience, not only because of its non-technical approach, but because of the present tensions in the relationship between Roman Catholics and those who differ with them. These tensions derive in part from the efforts of sincere people of differing beliefs to secure rapprochement and this has highlighted the reasons for difference and the grounds for common action. In part, these tensions have increased because of the intensity with which Roman Catholics are endeavoring to change traditional American patterns, not only in areas such as the parochial school or the exercise of censorship, but especially now with the endeavor on the part of many to secure the nomination of a Roman Catholic for the Presidency. Ilion Jones has spoken as a Protestant on this immediate problem with great conviction. Early in the book we realize that he is using the word "Protestant" in its more popular sense as opposed to "Catholic", and thereby fails to speak accurately for non-papal Catholics such as the Orthodox, Anglicans, Old Catholics and most Lutherans. This does not mean that the book has no value for these latter groups, but there will be much selective dissent on the part of such readers even as they are stimulated and instructed by the discussion. Certainly the material presented is of interest to any mature Christian who is allowed to read it and who wants to be effective in his Church and State relationships. Mr. Jones is wise in speaking as a "Protestant", while not claiming in any sense to speak for a "Protestant Church". He explores an area of our national life that people instinctively realize needs thinking through right now, and many will feel an urgency to give his work a careful and critical reading. (3/14. LC: 60-5095)

Strawson, William Westminster

JESUS AND THE FUTURE LIFE $3.95

What did Jesus actually say on the subject of the future life? That is the purpose of this study, and Dr. Strawson of Birmingham (England) has concentrated on dominical sayings in the synoptic Gospels to this end. He does not hesitate to include Greek or Hebrew in his study, but does it so smoothly that this is by no means a technician's book, but could be read with real profit by any concerned layman with more than a high school education. It is amazing how much is taken for granted in Christian circles on the subject of the future life which has no actual foundation in the words of Jesus. Dr. Strawson has stated his case clearly, has a fine conclusion; his chapters on death and judgment are particularly valuable. Good indices and bibliography. (4/11. LC:60-5617)

Szikszai, Stephen Westminster

THE STORY OF ISRAEL $1.50

The orderly arranging of Jewish history is a boon to anyone seeking to understand the Bible, and Professor Szikszai has done just that in a book which will be welcomed by laymen who want to know, college classes, and the Sunday School teacher who needs more background than a normal course can provide. The author avoids several pitfalls facing anyone who undertakes such a task. For instance, despite the complexity of the material, the story is told simply and yet adequately. The work might be dull, but instead, we are made conscious that these events really happened to real people. The worst pitfall is the one best avoided. It is so easy to minimize God's role in Jewish history and in their interpretation of their history. Professor Szikszai is faithful to the significance of this story, - that fundamentally it is a story about God, who is the Lord of history, and who revealed himself in the way He dealt with his Chosen People. The Jews would not have cared about history as secular historians write it. For them it was a personal experience. They didn't even have a word that can be translated "history". *The Story of Israel* is faithful to their point of view. (3/14. LC: 60-5225)